

Filed for intro on 03/01/2001

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 98
By Crutchfield

A RESOLUTION to honor James R. Mapp for his contributions to civil rights in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those commendable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mr. James R. Mapp is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of Hamilton County, Mr. Mapp began his campaign to end racial discrimination in his youth; and

WHEREAS, while a student at Orchard Knob Junior High School and Howard High School, Mr. Mapp experienced the inequity and injustice of segregation; and

WHEREAS, as a result of his experience, Mr. Mapp wrote letters to newspaper editors and served as the chairman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Youth Chapters in Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mapp continued his association with the NAACP by serving as secretary of the Chattanooga branch in 1953, branch president for 26 years, and state president for two and a-half years; and

WHEREAS, as president of the local NAACP chapter, Mr. Mapp joined in filing a school desegregation lawsuit which resulted in a court-ordered desegregation and integration plan in Hamilton County schools; and

WHEREAS, throughout his lifelong crusade for civil rights, Mr. Mapp has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mapp's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Mapp is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Mr. Mapp was fortunate to share both love and companionship with the late Viola Mapp, and their eight children; Mr. Mapp is now blessed by a marriage to Mrs. Betty McCoy Mapp; and

WHEREAS, James Mapp is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby commend James R. Mapp for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as a civil rights crusader and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.